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Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade

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Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade
Seventh meeting
Geneva, 4–15 May 2015
Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Organizational matters: organization of work

Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

1. The seventh ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade will be held at the Geneva International Conference Centre, 17 rue de Varembé, Geneva, from 4 to 15 May 2015, back-to-back with the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants. The meetings will feature joint sessions on joint issues. The meetings will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 4 May 2015 by the three presidents of the conferences of the parties.

2. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda

3. Subject to the rules of procedure, the Conference of the Parties may wish to adopt its agenda, amended as appropriate, on the basis of the provisional agenda set forth in document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/1.

Item 3

Organizational matters

(a) Election of officers

4. The Conference of the Parties has before it a note by the Secretariat on the election of officers (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/2). The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided and consider the possible action proposed therein.

5. Under rule 22 of the rules of procedure, a President and four Vice-Presidents, one of whom will act as Rapporteur, will be elected from among the representatives of the parties present at the meeting

* UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/1.

to serve as the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. They will commence their term of office at the closure of the meeting at which they are elected and serve until the closure of the next ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including for any intervening extraordinary meeting.

6. The Conference of the Parties may therefore wish to encourage the United Nations regional groups to meet during the course of the meeting to elect officers to serve on the Bureau from the end of the seventh meeting until the end of the eighth meeting and to inform the Conference of the Parties of the results of such elections.

(b) Organization of work

7. The Conference of the Parties has before it a scenario note for the meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/1[1]) and a tentative schedule of work (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/2-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/2-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/2), prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the presidents and the bureaux of the conferences of the parties.

8. The Conference of the Parties may wish to decide to meet from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., subject to adjustments as necessary.

9. The Conference of the Parties may wish to establish contact groups and other groups, as deemed necessary, and to specify their mandates.

(c) Report on the credentials of representatives to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties

10. The Conference of the Parties has before it a note by the Secretariat on the status of ratification of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/44-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/30-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/50). The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided therein.

11. Rule 19 of the rules of procedure provides that the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers should be submitted to the Secretariat if possible no later than 24 hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of a delegation must also be submitted to the Secretariat. The credentials should be issued either by a head of State or Government or by the minister of foreign affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization. If a delegation submits credentials prior to the meeting by copy or by fax, it should submit the original upon registration. Please note that the submission of credentials before the meeting would greatly facilitate the advance clearing process by the Secretariat.

12. The bureaux of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, during their joint meeting held on 11 and 12 November 2014, agreed on the approach they will follow when preparing the reports on credentials for the meetings of the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in 2015. The bureaux agreed that when examining the credentials received, they would accept original credentials in good order and copies of credentials in good order, on the understanding that the original credentials would be submitted as soon as possible.

13. Representatives of parties may participate in the meeting pending a decision by the Conference of the Parties on their credentials.

14. The Bureau, with the assistance of the Secretariat, will examine the credentials of the representatives of the parties at the meeting and report thereon to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

Item 4

Rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties

15. The Conference of the Parties has before it a note by the Secretariat on the rules of procedure for the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/3). The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the note and consider the possible action proposed therein.

[1] Documents that have three document symbols, such as the scenario note, are joint documents that are submitted for consideration by the conferences of the parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.

Item 5

Matters related to the implementation of the Convention

16. The Conference of the Parties will consider several sub-items under this agenda item. The sub-items are listed below in the order in which they appear in the provisional agenda, which is not necessarily the order of priority for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

(a) Status of implementation

17. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat providing information on the implementation of the Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/5), on proposals to increase notifications of final regulatory action (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/4), on a proposal on ways of exchanging information on exports and export notifications (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/5) and on responses received from parties to the questionnaire on paragraph 2 (c) of Article 11 and on Article 12 (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/13).

18. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the notes and consider the possible action proposed in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/4 and UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/5.

(b) Consideration of chemicals for inclusion in Annex III to the Convention

19. The Conference of the Parties has before it a note prepared by the Secretariat on developments under the Chemical Review Committee for action by the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/6).

20. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided and consider the possible action proposed therein.

21. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat on the inclusion of the following chemicals in Annex III to the Convention:

(a) Methamidophos (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/7), its draft decision guidance document (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/7/Add.1), comments and further information related to the draft decision guidance document for methamidophos (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/6) and recommendations and rationale of the Chemical Review Committee on the inclusion of methamidophos in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/7);

(b) Fenthion (ultra-low-volume (ULV) formulations at or above 640 g active ingredient/L) (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/8), its draft decision guidance document (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/8/Add.1), comments and further information related to the draft decision guidance document for fenthion (ultra low volume (ULV) formulations at or above 640 g active ingredient/L) (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/8) and recommendations and rationale of the Chemical Review Committee on the inclusion of fenthion (ultra low volume (ULV) formulations at or above 640 g active ingredient/L) in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/9);

(c) Trichlorfon (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/9), its draft decision guidance document (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/9/Add.1), comments and further information related to the draft decision guidance document for trichlorfon (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/10) and recommendations and rationale of the Chemical Review Committee on the inclusion of trichlorfon in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/11);

(d) Liquid formulations (emulsifiable concentrate and soluble concentrate) containing paraquat dichloride at or above 276 g/L, corresponding to paraquat ion at or above 200 g/L (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/10) and its draft decision guidance document (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/10/Add.1);

(e) Chrysotile asbestos (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/11) and its draft decision guidance document (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/11/Add.1).

22. A compilation of comments received from parties relating to the recommendation by the Chemical Review Committee to list chemicals and a severely hazardous pesticide formulation in Annex III to the Rotterdam Convention has also been prepared by the Secretariat (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/34).

23. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the notes and consider the possible action proposed in documents UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/7–11.

(c) Non-compliance

24. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat on procedures and institutional mechanisms for determining non-compliance with the provisions of the Rotterdam Convention and for the treatment of parties found to be in non-compliance (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/12) and on a brief on compliance under the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/12–UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/40).

25. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the notes and consider the possible action proposed in document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/12.

(d) Technical assistance

26. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat on technical assistance and capacity-building for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/13-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/13-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/13), on capacity-building and training activities organized by the Secretariat from May 2013 to December 2014 (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/22-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/14-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/17), on capacity-building and training activities planned by the Secretariat for 2015 (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/23-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/18), on a report on the technical assistance needs of developing country parties and parties with economies in transition for the implementation of the Rotterdam Convention and the technical assistance available from developed country parties and others (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/16), and on a technical assistance programme for the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions over the biennium 2016–2017 (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/25-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/17-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/16).

27. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the notes and consider the possible action proposed in document UNEP/CHW.12/13-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/13-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/13.

(e) Financial resources

28. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat on facilitating financial resources for chemicals and wastes (UNEP/CHW.12/20-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/14-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/26), on a checklist on the integrated approach to financing options for chemicals and wastes for use by Secretariat staff (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/33-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/18-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/34) and on terms of reference for the special programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/34-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/19-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/35).

29. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the information provided in the notes and the possible action proposed in document UNEP/CHW.12/20-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/14-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/26.

(f) International cooperation and coordination

30. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat on international cooperation and coordination (UNEP/CHW.12/19-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/31), on a report on activities pertaining to international cooperation and coordination (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/31-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/41), on section I of resolution 1/5 of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme on strengthening the sound management of chemicals and wastes in the long term (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/32-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/21-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/23), and on integrating chemicals and wastes management into the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/54-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/39-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/58).

31. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the information provided in the notes and the possible action proposed in document UNEP/CHW.12/19-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/15-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/31.

Item 6

Programme of work and budget

32. The Conference of the Parties has before it notes by the Secretariat entitled "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2016–2017: combined proposal including joint activities" (UNEP/CHW.12/22-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/16-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/32), "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2016–2017: proposed operational budgets for the two funding scenarios" (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/36-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/22-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/42) and "Programmes of work and proposed budgets for the biennium 2016–2017: budget activity fact sheets" (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/38-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/24-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/44). As was the case with the programmes of work and budgets of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for the biennium 2014–2015, the programmes of work and proposed budgets for 2016–2017 have been developed jointly and are presented in a harmonized format in a single document. The budget for the proposed joint activities for the biennium 2016–2017 is an integral part of those documents.

33. The Conference of the Parties also has before it notes by the Secretariat on information on financial matters (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/25), on updated information on financial matters (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/26), on options for incentives and measures related to arrears in core budget contributions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/41-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/27-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/47), on a report on cost savings resulting from the synergies among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions for the period 2012–2013 (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/42-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/28-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/48), on a report on the audit of the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/43-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/29-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/49), and on contributions to the technical cooperation and voluntary special trust funds of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions in the biennium 2014–2015 (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/3-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/4-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/59).

34. The Conference of the Parties also has before it notes by the Secretariat on enhancing cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1), on a report on the implementation of joint and convention-specific activities contained in the 2014–2015 programme budgets of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/45-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/31-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/51), on mainstreaming gender in the Secretariat (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/49-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/33-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/54), on information on the organizational structure of the Secretariat as at 8 December 2014 (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/37-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/35-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/55) and on a strategy for mainstreaming science in the implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/53-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/38-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/57).

35. The Conference of the Parties also has before it notes by the Secretariat on the clearing-house mechanism for information exchange (UNEP/CHW.12/26-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/35) and on a draft strategy for further development and operation of the joint clearing-house mechanism for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/50-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/36-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/56).

36. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the information provided in the notes and the possible action proposed in documents UNEP/CHW.12/22-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/16-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/32, UNEP/CHW.12/23/Rev.1-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/17/Rev.1-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/33/Rev.1 and UNEP/CHW.12/26-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/20-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/35.

Item 7

Venue and date of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

37. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the venue and date of its eighth meeting, taking into account rules 3 and 4 of the rules of procedure.

Item 8

Other matters

38. The Conference of the Parties has before it a note by the Secretariat on the admission of observers (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/18), a note by the Secretariat entitled "Admission of observers: report on experiences with using the application forms and practices followed" (UNEP/CHW.12/INF/46-UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/32-UNEP/POPS/COP.7/INF/53), and a note by the Secretariat on bodies or agencies requesting to participate in meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/23).

39. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided in the notes and consider the possible action proposed in document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/18.

40. The Conference of the Parties also has before it notes by the Secretariat on the development of a draft memorandum of understanding between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme and the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/19) and on the memorandum of understanding between the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations concerning the arrangements to jointly perform the secretariat functions for the Rotterdam Convention, as signed in 2005 (UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/INF/37).

41. The Conference of the Parties may wish to take note of the information provided and consider the possible action proposed in document UNEP/FAO/RC/COP.7/19.

42. The Conference of the Parties may also wish to consider other matters raised during the course of the meeting.

Item 9

Adoption of the report

43. At the last separate session of its meeting, the Conference of the Parties will be invited to consider and adopt the draft report on its work prepared by the Rapporteur.

Item 10

Closure of the meeting

44. It is expected that the meeting will be closed by the President by 6 p.m. on Friday, 15 May 2015.